

# WEST LAFAYETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

300 NORTH ST • WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA 47906

MAIN PHONE: 765-775-5175



Re: April Report

To: West Lafayette Common Council

From: Chief Timothy J. Heath

Call totals: West Lafayette Fire responded to 194 Total Calls in April. 151 Medical, 10 Fire, 5 Hazardous Conditions, 5 Service Calls, 6 Good Intent Calls, and 17 False Alarms.

Mutual Aid to Purdue Fire Department: On April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 hours, West Lafayette Fire Department was called to assist the Purdue Fire Department with a room and contents fire at a fraternity house on David Ross Rd. Everyone was safely evacuated from the structure and there were no injuries reported.

Training: West Lafayette Fire has completed 474 training hours in April. Crews were trained on how to call for a Mayday or downed firefighter. Crews also trained on how to rescue a downed firefighter.

Statistics: In 2006-2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 8,600 home<sup>1</sup> fires involving grills, hibachis, or barbecues per year, including an average of 3,600 structure fires and 5,000 outside fires. These 8,600 fires caused annual average of 10 civilian deaths, 140 reported civilian injuries, and \$75 million in direct property damage.

Almost all the losses resulted from structure fires.

July was the peak month for grill fires but these incidents occur throughout the year.

## **Emergency Room Visits Due to Grills**

In 2011, 16,600 patients went to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills.<sup>2</sup>

Almost half (7,800) of the injuries were thermal burns.

➤ Children under five accounted for one-quarter (26%) of the thermal grill burns. These were typically contact burns rather than flame burns.

➤ Almost one-third of the gas grill injuries were burns incurred while lighting the grill.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Heath".

Timothy J. Heath

Fire Chief